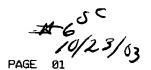


ROGITZ&ASSOCIATES



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Applicant: Chakrabarti)	Art Unit: 2176
Serial No.: 09/523,639)	Examiner: Nguyen
Filed: March 10, 2000)	AM9-98-128
For: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR DISTRIBUTED AUTONOMOUS MAINTENANCE OF BIDIRECTIONAL HYPERLINK METADTA ON THE WEB AND SIMILAR HYPERMEDIA REPOSITORY)	October 14, 2003 750 B STREET, Suite 3120 San Diego, CA 92101

FASCIMILE TRANSMITTAL FOR RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner For Patents and Trademarks Alexandria, VA 22313

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated October 6, 2003, attached herewith are the following:

(1) A response to Office Action in 2 pages.

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RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated October 6, 2003, the following remarks are submitted. All pending claims (1-16) have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being obvious over Lee et al. in view of Mullen-Schultz. At the time the present invention was made, this application and Mullen-Schultz were both commonly owned by IBM Corp., removing Mullen-Schultz as a reference and rendering the claims patentable.

In addition, contrary to the allegation in the Office Action that Lee et al. teaches accessing a table of inlinks to facilitate generating a list of sibling links based on the table, with each sibling link being an outlink of one of the inlinks in the table, the relied-upon section of Lee et al. simply discusses a hierarchy of links. There is no teaching or suggestion that the links are inlinks, much less that they are used in turn to generate a list of outlinks. For this further reason, the rejection is overcome.

1053-39.AMD





CASE NO.: AM9-98-128 Serial No.: 09/523,639 October 10, 2003

Page 2

PATENT Filed: March 10, 2000

Additionally, the rejections of various dependent claims that carry over the mistake above are overcome.

Furthermore, it follows that the allegation that it would have been obvious to combine the references as proposed is incorrect, since Lee et al. simply does not teach what has been relied upon to support the proposed combination. The Examiner is cordially invited to telephone the undersigned at (619) 338-8075 for any reason which would advance the instant application to allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

John L. Rogitz

Registration No. 33,549

Attorney of Record

750 B Street, Suite 3120

San Diego, CA 92101

Telephone: (619) 338-8075

JLR:jg

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